Commissions and district forums established under the Consumer Protection Act found to be frivolous during the last three years with details of each State and Union Territory in the country;

(b) what action Government have taken to discourage the filing of frivolous complaints;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Consumer Protection Act to provide for penal action for filing false and frivolous complaints; and

(d) if not so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) The High Powered Working Group, in its Report on the amendment of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has recommended that the National Commission/State Commissions/District Forums should be empowered to punish the complaint if he files a malicious complaint. The recommendation is under consideration of the Government.

Allocation of quota of edible oils and essential commodities to Maharashtra

4634. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government have submitted any proposal for allocation of quota of edible oils and other essential commodities especially for meeting the needs of the people during the ensuing festive season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Demands from States/U.Ts. including Maharashtra for there is no proposal for additional allocation of foodgrains etc. for the PDS are received from time to time. Allocation of PDS commodities is supplemental in nature and cannot meet the total demands of the States/UTs. There is no proposal for specific additional allocation of rice and wheat for the festival season from Maharashtra Government. However, a quantity of 9014 tonnes of levy sugar has been allotted to the State for the purpose. Of this, 4014 tonnes have been released alongwith the quota of August, 1992; the balance will be released alongwith the October quota.

Allocation of imported edible oils is subject to its availability with the Central Government. A quality of 2000 tonnes of Palmolein have been allotted to the State in July, 1992.

Supply of essential commodities Orissa

4635. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total requirement of Government of Orissa for the months of April, May, June, July, 1992, with regard to essential commodities like rice, wheat, levy sugar, palmolive oil, kerosene oil and what was the actual quantity supplied by Central Government; and

(b whether the supply was less than the requirement, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The demand of

foodgrains and edible oils made by Government of Orissa and allocations made to them from April, 1992 to July, 1992 are given in the Statement attached. [*See* below]. No regular allocations of imported edible oil have been made to States/UTs, including Orissa. The allocation made for March and April, 1992 were revalidated in June, 92 and against this revalidation, the State Government has lifted neary 2000 MTs in June, 92.

Allocation of levy sugar to Orissa Government including 5 per cent *ad-hoc* increase is of the order of 13013 tonnes. Besides, festival quota of 3730 tonnes of sugar has been made to the State Government for the ensuing festival season.

Quantities of allocation of kerosene also depends on availability of stocks. Demands are received from States/UTs for enhancement of quota off and on. The allocation of kerosene to Government of Orissa since April, 1992 is as under:

Month	Allocation (in tonnes)
April, 92 . .	12956
May, 92 . .	12956
June, 92 . .	12956
July, 92 . .	12956

Statement

Demand and allocation to Government of Orissa of foodgrains and imported edible oil

(in tonnes)

Month	Demand			Allocation		
	Rice	Wheat	Imported Edible Oil	Rice	Wheat	Imported Edible Oil
April, 92	30,000	35,000	*	25,000	25,000	1000
May, 92	35,000	35,000	*	25,000	20,000	Nil
June, 92	35,000	35,000	*	38,750	20,000	Nil
July, 92	35,000	35,000	*	38,750	20,000	Nil

*Government of Orissa has requested for allotment of 5000 tonnes per month of imported edible oil till the open market prices come down to a reasonable level.

Reduction in quantity of rice in Tamil Nadu

4636. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reduction of rice from 20 kilos per month to 15 kgs per card in Tamil Nadu, if so, reasons therefor;

(b) whether the price of rice has been considerably increased;

(c) whether there has been a huge number of Bogus Ration Cards in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the fact that the sugar price has been increased in public distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a)